



**Frederick County
Government
Frederick, Maryland**

News Release

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Executive Gardner Thanks County Staff for Snow Response

FREDERICK, MD – Executive Jan Gardner expressed her appreciation to all those who helped the county weather this week's snow storm and minimize casualties.

Frederick County was forecast to receive up to 19 inches of snow from the late winter storm nicknamed Stella this past Monday night through Tuesday morning, with the county actually receiving between 4 and 11 inches of snow. While these lower snowfall totals reduced the negative impacts of the storm, it still required the mobilization of county resources to ensure critical emergency services remained available and the county was safely, rapidly and efficiently returned to normal.

"Thanks to our hard working Highway Operations crews who were out late at night and very early Tuesday morning clearing the snow," Executive Gardner commented. "I also want to thank our residents for taking heed to our request to stay home and safe during the storm, allowing our crews to work to clear snow. Roads were cleared more efficiently and fewer emergencies were reported due to fewer drivers taking risks during the storm."

She also expressed appreciation to employees who work long hours behind the scenes during such emergency situations. Emergency Communications (9-1-1), Emergency Management, Fire & Rescue, Interagency Information Technologies, Parks & Recs, Public Works, Sheriff's Office, Utilities & Solid Waste and many other county offices did not have a day off during the storm, but were actively engaged in serving citizens, monitoring operations and ensuring critical county services remained available to residents and businesses.

In addition, staff from the Division of Public Works responded to citizens through a call center and the Emergency Communications Center and Emergency Operations Center coordinated the county response.

The county also worked cooperatively with The City of Frederick to help expedite their snow removal and a return to normal for businesses and residents.

Frederick County Government took the lead in getting drivers off the road by closing offices on Monday and encouraged businesses and major employers to close as well. "Administratively closing county government is a decision that is never taken lightly, but this action demonstrates our commitment to taking actions consistent with our recommendations for citizen safety and operational efficiency," added Executive Gardner.

Personnel directly involved in clearing all roads included 106 Highway Operations crews and 62 contracted personnel. They utilized 80 county and 40 contractor plows, 12 pieces of county-owned heavy equipment, two county-owned and 22 contractor skid loaders.

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